ക്രമമായ രീതിയിൽ പെരുമാറിവരുന്ന എന്നാണു്. അതു്തീരെ അവാസ്തവമാണെന്നു പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. മദ്യത്തോടു വൈമനസ്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനായി ആരെങ്കിലുംപ്രവൃത്തിച്ചാൽഅങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ആളുകൾക്കു് പോലീസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടർമെൻറോ എക്സൈസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറോ ഉപദ്രവം ചെയ്യാറില്ല. ഏതുപ്രദേശങ്ങളിലാണു്മദ്യത്തോടു വൈമനസ്യം ജനിപ്പിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം പ്രസംഗിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനറിയാവുന്നതുപോലെ നിങ്ങൾക്കറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ. അതറിഞ്ഞിരുന്നാൽ നിങ്ങൾ ഇങ്ങനെ പറയുകയില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഏതുപ്രവൃത്തിയിലും ഏതു പന്ഥാവുന്നു സരിച്ചായാലും നല്ലയാളുകളും, അതുനല്ലആളുകളല്ലാത്തവരും കാണും. ജനങ്ങൾക്കുപദ്രവകരമായ വിധത്തിലും ചട്ടത്തിനു വിപരീതമായും, അന്യായമായും, അക്രമമായും, പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നതിനു സന്നദ്ധന്മാരായ ആളുകളും ഉണ്ടായേക്കാം. അങ്ങിനെ ഉള്ള അവസരത്തിലല്ലാതെ ഗവണ്മെൻറോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറോ മദ്യനിരോധനത്തിനായി പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നവക്കു വിപരീതമായിയാതൊരു പ്രവൃത്തിയും ചെയ്യാറില്ല.

ചങ്ങനാശ്ശേരിയിൽ ലോക്കൽ ആപ്ഷൻ നടക്കുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി നിങ്ങൾ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. അതിൻെറ ശരിയായ ഫലം കിട്ടണമെങ്കിൽ കള്ളഷാപ്പുകളെക്കൂടി നിർത്തണമെന്നും, അവിടെയുള്ള ചാരായസ്റ്റോർ മാറ്റി സ്ഥാപിക്കണം എന്നും പറഞ്ഞു. ആ ഭാഗം നോട്ടു ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു.

[What you said about the attitude of Government towards temperance workers is untrue. Government interfere only when such workers break the law or transgress the limits of constitutional action. There are different classes of workers in the field. The proposal to abolish the toddy shops and remove elsewhere the arrack warehouse at Changanacherry is noted.]

14. Encouragement of the Salt Industry.

MR. P. KOLAPPA PILLAI (*Municipal Council, Nagercoil*) said that a quantity of 5 lakhs of maunds of salt was imported by Government every year for consumption within the State. But about a hundred years ago the State was not only self-contained in regard to salt, but exported large quantities of the article to the British Indian districts. An expert should therefore be appointed to investigate the possibilities of opening more salt factories in Travancore.

The Old Allom at Thamaracolam, which was producing two lakhs of maunds of salt every year, was for some years past yielding only thirty or forty thousand maunds for want of good brine. The proposal before the Government to bring brine from the sea to the main reservoir of

the *allom* direct should be sanctioned. Percolation of fresh water in the eastern portion of the *allom* should be immediately stopped. The main reservoir should be repaired and the silt accumulated therein removed. Experiments might be made with tube-wells in the portion of the *allom* adjoining the Manakudi lake to see whether good brine could be drawn from below. Should the experiments prove successful, the licensees would be able to sink brine wells.

The licensees of the Modified Excise factories, who found it difficult to execute *maramath* works out of the sale proceeds of their salt should be granted industrial loans.

There was a general complaint that home salt was inferior to foreign salt. The inferiority could be attributed to the working of pans without condensers, the failure to scrape salt in time and to remove the bitterns after the fifth scraping and the sale of the article immediately after its removal to the drying ground. The defects should be remedied by exercising greater control over manufacture. The licensees of the Variyoor and Thamaracolam factories sold their salt for comparatively low prices on account of the unfair competition among the Thamaracolam licensees. Undue preference was shown to some licensees by the department by allowing them to sell salt as soon as it was removed to the drying ground. Government also made invidious distinctions by extending the time for the delivery of stipulated quantities due from certain licensees. Such special treatment gave rise to unhealthy competition. Hence, some method of control over the sale of salt was a matter of necessity. A committee with a non-official majority should be appointed to report how the sale of salt could be regulated.

An experienced officer possessing intimate knowledge of chemistry and having practical experience of salt manufacture should be posted in the salt factories.

The licensees of the Old Allom were entitled to enhanced rates of *kudivila*. As the sale price of a maund of salt was Bh. Re. 1 as. 14 the licensees should get 40 per cent. of that price or 12 annas per maund. When a maund of salt was transported from the Old Allom, its sale price of Bh. Re. 1 as. 14 was credited in the accounts as follows:—Duty—Bh. Re. 1 as. 4, *kudivila*—6 annas and recoveries—4 annas. Out of the recoveries, Government realised a profit. Out of the *kudivila*, the licensees were getting only $2\frac{3}{4}$ annas. It should be a matter for consideration whether the remaining $3\frac{1}{4}$ annas was the share of the Government or of the licensees.

The kudivila of $2\frac{3}{4}$ annas per maund was an arbitrary rate, fixed without any regard to the claims of the licensees. The matter should therefore be sympathetically considered and the licensees' grievances redressed.

The condition of the Puthallom licensees was worse still. Though they got *kudivila* at the rate of 3½ annas per maund, they had to execute the *maramath* works themselves. Government should realise their difficulties and render all possible relief to them.

There was a proposal to introduce the Modified Excise system in the Old *alloms* at Thamaracolam. The salt licensees were not aware of the nature of the proposal, nor had they been consulted before the Excise Commissioner sent up his recommendations to Government. The conditions of the proposed change should be conceived in a liberal spirit. The member concluded by suggesting that Government should sanction the early introduction of the Modified Excise system in the Old *Alloms*, if not the Excise system itself.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kolappa Pillai. With regard to these *alloms*, all the points that you have raised are even now under the consideration of Government; and as you yourself are aware, some of them are, I believe, nearing solution.

All the suggestions that you have made will be considered and Government will pass orders on those matters. On some of them, Government have already passed orders.

15. Wild Elephants.

MR. A. J. WRIGHT (*Kanan Devan Planters' Association*) began by saying that he proposed for the time being to confine his representation to one specific case in which the facts were already in the possession of the Government and had not been challenged. He referred to an elephant on Kadalaar estate, a recently opened property of the Kanan Devan Hills Produce Company Ltd., and situated about five miles from Munnar, in the Devicolam Division.

As long ago as May 1930, it was reported to the District Magistrate, Devicolam, that an elephant had been causing damage on that estate by pulling off the corrugated iron sheets, etc. from the roof of a cooly line. Two months later, a temporary building of eight rooms was demolished. A month later, a woman was killed; and at intervals since then it appeared on the estate terrorising the labourers and doing damage in a greater or less degree until at the end of December it crossed an elephant trench and entirely destroyed the camp which it protected including a new tent valued at over Rs. 200. Apart from the human life sacrificed, the total damage caused by the beast was estimated to be about Rs. 450.

Representations were made to the proper quarter on each occasion and the subject had been dealt with by the Police and Forest officers. As long ago as the 26th August 1930, the Devicolam Commissioner recommended to Government the proscribing of the animal as a rogue, but no orders had yet been issued and the beast was permitted to continue its wanderings and might at any time take further toll of human life.